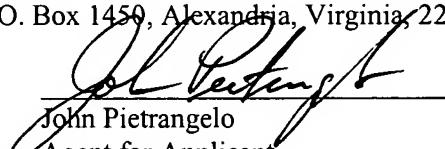


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: BAYER, et al. Attorney Docket No.: 2350.422  
Serial No.: To Be Assigned Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned  
Filed: February 5, 2004 Examiner: To Be Assigned  
Title: ARRANGEMENTS AND METHODS FOR CONNECTING  
DECORATIVE ORNAMENTS

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service  
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EV 344875289 US on February 5, 2004 and addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application,  
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia, 22313-1450.

  
John Pietrangelo  
Agent for Applicant  
Reg. No. 39,331

Date of Signature: February 5, 2004

To: Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

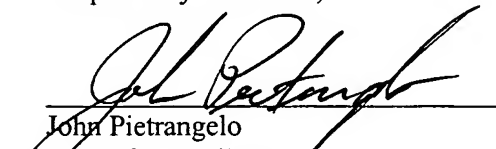
Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the one (1) reference listed on the attached one-page Information Disclosure Citation (PTO Form 1449). Pursuant to the Waiver under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), only copies of non-patent literature are included.

This citation does not constitute an admission by Applicant that the references are relevant or material to the patentability of the claimed invention.

As the present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with this application, no official surcharge is required.

Respectfully submitted,

  
John Pietrangelo  
Agent for Applicant  
Reg. No. 39,331

Dated: February 5, 2004

HESLIN ROTHENBERG FARLEY & MESITI P.C.  
5 Columbia Circle  
Albany, New York 12203  
Telephone: (518) 452-5600  
Facsimile: (518) 452-5579

|                                 |                             |                           |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION | Docket No.: 2350.422        | Serial No. To Be Assigned |
|                                 | Applicant: Bayer et al      |                           |
|                                 | Filing Date: Filed Herewith | Group: To Be Assigned     |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |    |                 |      |                    |       |          |                            |
|-----------------------|----|-----------------|------|--------------------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
| Examiner Initial      |    | Document Number | Date | Name               | Class | Subclass | Filing Date If Appropriate |
|                       | AA | 3,629,571       | 1971 | Arnold A. Schonbek | 240   | 153      |                            |
|                       |    |                 |      |                    |       |          |                            |
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|                       |    |                 |      |                    |       |          |                            |
|                       |    |                 |      |                    |       |          |                            |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |  |                            |             |                |              |                 |                    |           |
|--------------------------|--|----------------------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------|
|                          |  | <u>DOCUMENT<br/>NUMBER</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Country</u> | <u>Class</u> | <u>Subclass</u> | <u>Translation</u> |           |
|                          |  |                            |             |                |              |                 | <u>Yes</u>         | <u>No</u> |
|                          |  |                            |             |                |              |                 |                    |           |
|                          |  |                            |             |                |              |                 |                    |           |
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| Other Documents (including Author, Title, Date, pertinent public. etc.) |  |  |
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